

On page 6, line 11, please insert the following heading:

--Description of Preferred Embodiments--.

Beginning on page 9, line 8, through page 10, line 6, please replace the entire existing paragraph with the following:

B1

--The outlet opening 16 is surrounded by a drying chamber 32 that is mounted on the outer periphery of the container body 14 and has an integrated collecting trough. The drying chamber 32 has an opening 33 through which the wafer 3 can be moved. Provided within the drying chamber [33] 32 are nozzles 34,35 via which a fluid, which reduces the surface tension of the treatment fluid, can be introduced into the region of the outlet opening 16. A fluid that is suitable as a surface tension reducing fluid is, for example, IPA, a hot gas such as hot N₂, etc. The fluid that reduces the surface tension of the treatment fluid is directed via the nozzles 34,35 in a precise manner upon a meniscus formed between the treatment fluid 20 and the wafer 3 in order at this location to achieve a good drying pursuant to the Marangoni principle. Alternatively, the meniscus could also be heated in some other way, for example with a laser, in order in this region to achieve a reduction of the surface tension. Figure 2 shows an enlarged detailed view of the drying chamber 32, whereby for the sake of simplifying illustration the nozzles 34,35 have been left out. As can be recognized from Figure 2, provided in a lower half of the drying chamber 32 is a needle-shaped element 36 that serves as a drip catcher. At the rear edge of the wafer the drying process via the Marangoni effect during discharge from the chamber is critical, and it is possible for dense fluid to adhere to the wafer and to form a drop. This drop is, however, drawn off by the drip catcher [37] 36, which is positioned at a slight distance, for example > 1 millimeter, from the wafer and at the center thereof.--

On page 14, after line 2, please insert the following paragraphs:

B2

--The specification incorporates by reference the disclosure of German priority document 199 34 300.4 filed 21 July 1999 and International priority document PCT/EP00/06716 of July 14,

2000.

*B2
Cont.*
The present invention is, of course, in no way restricted to the specific disclosure of the specification and drawings, but also encompasses any modifications within the scope of the appended claims.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓
Please cancel claims 1 - 16, and replace them with the attached claims 17 - 29.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace Fig. 2 with the attached Fig. 2.